GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1462
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
PARTICIPATION OF PANCHAYATS GRAM SABHAS IN PLANNING OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to involve people in planning and implementation of rural development programmes through the active participation of Gram Sabhas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to collect and maintain all the information or decisions taken by Gram Sabhas/Panchayats;

(d) whether any exercise of this nature has been done on a pilot project basis; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Gram Sabhas are required to determine the priority of development works according to their need and also to approve the Annual Plan of the Gram Panchayats. The Government of India have issued instructions to the States/UTs to ensure that the progress of works taken up by the Gram Panchayats are discussed in the Gram Sabha andsocial audit of these works is also carried out by the Gram Sabha.

(c): Panchayati Raj being a State subject, it is not advisable for the Central Government to have any mechanism to collect and maintain such information.

(d) & (e): The question does not arise.